

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

February 4, 2010

Mr. Mike Petters  
President, Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding  
P.O. Box 149  
Pascagoula, MS 39568-0149

Dear Mr. Petters;

Thank you for your visit with us on January 27<sup>th</sup>. Your discussion concerning efforts to fully restore the efficiency of the shipyard post-Katrina was very helpful.

We remain concerned that the five major contract actions with the Navy have not been resolved. While we certainly understand the need to ensure that the contracts are balanced in terms of cost, schedule, and risk to your company we are also keenly aware that in this time of economic uncertainty a completed contract action will bring needed stability and predictability to the shipbuilding work force on the Gulf Coast.

You have our assurance that we will also discuss with Navy leadership the need for a quick resolution to the ongoing negotiations.

We would welcome an opportunity for you to update us in the near future on your shipyard restructuring efforts and your progress with negotiations with the Navy.

Sincerely,



THAD COCHRAN  
U.S. Senator



ROGER WICKER  
U.S. Senator



GENE TAYLOR  
Member of Congress